

Queen Elizabeth I



The daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn, Queen Elizabeth I ascended to the throne in 1558 at the age of 25. Elizabeth's artful use of ambiguity infuses her writing. She produced the first English translation of Horace's *Art of Poetry*. Her respect for learning created an atmosphere conducive to the arts and education, and cultural life flourished during her reign. Edmund Spenser wrote his classic epic poem *The Faerie Queene* in her honor.